Charting the Course - The Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan for Tampa Bay

Restoration Plan Database:
Crystal Reports of Individual Plan Summaries

I. BASIC PLAN DATA

Plan name:

Charting the Course - The Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan for Tampa Bay

Brief description of plan:

This CCMP for the Tampa Bay region includes a discussion of the state of Bay resources, sets goals and priorities and is an action plan for implementation and monitoring. From the headwaters of the Hillsborough River to the salty waters off Anna Maria Island, Tampa Bay encompasses a rich mosaic of underwater and coastal habitats that support thousands of species of plants and animals. Tampa Bay spans almost 400 square miles and receives drainage from a 2,200-square-mile watershed more than five times the bay's size.

Region the plan is located within:

Gulf of Mexico Region

Watershed(s) included within the plan:

G070x , G072x

Area plan covers (in square miles):

2,600.00 square miles

Plan scale:

Multi-county

Plan’s lead organization(s):

Tampa Bay National Estuary Program, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IV

Plan’s Main Contact Information:

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On-line version of plan:

www.tbep.org/publications/general-pub.html#CHART

Date of original plan:

12/1996

Date of plan update:

12/2001

II. TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Plan includes restoration goals: Y

Level of detail of the goals:

MS

Summary of the goals:

Restoration and protection of seagrasses is a key goal. The goal is to restore 12,350 acres and protect the bay's existing 25,600 acres of grass beds based on restoring the vital underwater seagrass meadows to 1950's levels. This will largely be achieved by controlling the bay's nitrogen intake-although other factors such as turbidity and watercolor also influence seagrass regrowth. The goal is to restore at least 100 acres of low-salinity tidal stream habitat every five years for a total increase over time of 1,800 acres, while preserving existing salt marshes and mangroves.

Plan recommends or uses criteria for selecting restoration sites (e.g. cost benefit ratio, ecological benefits):

Y

Summary of the criteria:

All existing emergent marine and estuarine wetlands not currently under some form of protection from development are identified as priority acquistion or negotiated protection areas. Twenty-eight specific areas are identified for protection, including critical areas of existing or potentially restorable freshwater marshes essential for the continued existence of healthy white ibis populations and other bay wildlife species.

Plan recommends restoration of specific project sites:

Y

Plan includes a discussion of funding sources:

Y

Plan addresses long-term protection of restored sites:

Y

Partners included in developing the plan:

Federal
State
Local
Port Authorities/Commissions
Business/Industry
Non-profit Organizations

Type(s) of public outreach included during plan development:

Held public workshops, meetings, open house, or scoping meetings
Held focus groups
Kept a contact list of interested parties
Distributed brochures or other materials
Formed an advisory group(s)
Involved the media through news releases, public service announcements, etc.

Plan includes public outreach as part of plan implementation (e.g. annual public meeting, local group participation):

Y

Plan discusses the application of innovative approaches to restoration:

N

Plan make use of GIS mapping capabilities:

N

Plan addresses monitoring/reference sites for ecosystem level monitoring (baseline conditions) by:

S

Plan addresses monitoring/reference sites for project level monitoring by:

G

The plan discusses or coordinates with other restoration plans covering the same geographic area:

N

Other plan names:

Plan contains detailed information on historic and/or current habitat size, rate of loss, acres restored or protected, etc.):

Y

Summary of this habitat information:

Tidal marshes - decreased 75% in total acres since 1990, Mangroves-decreased 17% in total acres since 1990, Salt Barrens-decreased 13% since 1990.